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ARIZONA AGRI-WEEKLY

For Week Ending March 10, 2002

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Field Crops Report

As of March 10, **alfalfa** harvest progress was reported as 39 percent not being harvested, 26 percent light, 16 percent moderate, and 19 percent active. **Alfalfa** condition was reported as 14 percent poor, 23 percent fair, 55 percent good, and 8 percent excellent. **Alfalfa** sheeping off was reported as light.

Small Grains heading is just getting underway. As of March 10, 6 percent of **Durum Wheat**, 4 percent of **Winter Wheat**, 6 percent of **Barley**, and 6 percent of **Other Small Grains** were reported as headed.

Fruit, Vegetable and Specialty Crops Report

Producers in central Arizona shipped broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, green onions, head lettuce, mixed greens, romaine and spinach last week.

Western Arizona producers shipped anise, bok choy, broccoflower, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, celery, cilantro, endive, escarole, kale, mixed greens, napa, parsley, rapini, salad savoy and spinach last week. Western lettuce shipments included boston, iceberg, leaf, romaine and spring mix.

Last week citrus producers in central Arizona harvested tangerines, lemons, grapefruit, mandarins and navels, while western producers harvested tangerines, lemons and grapefruit.

Livestock, Range and Pasture Report

Range and Pasture conditions have been declining due to lack of rainfall. Conditions were reported as 17 percent very poor, 58 percent poor, and 25 percent fair. **Livestock** were reported to be in good condition. **Stock Water** was reported as adequate. **Soil Moisture** was reported as short. **Insect Damage** was reported as light. During February, ranges and pastures in Arizona remained in poor to fair condition. Arizona livestock were in fair condition, remaining constant when compared with last month. Stock water supplies throughout the state were short to adequate, while soil moisture remained short. Insect damage was reported as none to very light.

Northern grazing conditions were poor to fair during the month of February, worsening slightly. Most ranchers reported cold and dry conditions continuing throughout the month of February with almost no moisture. High level elevation pastures worsened, ranging from poor to fair condition. Mid level elevations remained constant, ranging from poor to fair condition. Low level elevations also worsened, ranging from very poor to fair condition. Livestock were reported to be in fair condition. Stock water supplies were reported as short to adequate. Soil moisture conditions were reported as short. Insect damage was reported as none to very light.

Overall, Central pasture conditions were reported as fair, improving when compared to last month. Some ranchers continued reporting very dry conditions with little to no precipitation and supplemental feeding. Range and pasture conditions were reported as fair at high level elevations, improving when compared with last month. Mid level elevations were reported in poor to fair condition, while lower level conditions ranged from fair to excellent. Livestock conditions were reported as fair. Stock water supplies were reported as short to adequate, while soil moisture was reported as short. Insect damage was reported as none to light.

Southern pastures ranged from poor to good condition overall, improving slightly when compared with last month. Ranchers continued to report very dry, cold conditions, little tank water and very little rain. Conditions were fair to good at high level elevation, remaining constant when compared with last month. Mid level and low level conditions ranged from poor to good, improving slightly when compared with last month. Livestock condition was reported as fair. Stock water supplies were reported as short to adequate, while soil moisture was reported as short. Insect damage was reported as none.

Weather Summary

Temperatures for most of the State were slightly below average for the week ending March 9. Temperatures ranged from 4 degrees below normal at Canyon de Chelly, to 2 degrees above normal at Phoenix. The highest temperature of the week was 82 degrees at Gila Bend, while the lowest reading was -3 degrees at Flagstaff. Precipitation was reported at 12 of the 17 reporting stations. Precipitation ranged from 0.01 inches at Winslow to 0.43 inches at Grand Canyon.

Major Contributors: The University of Arizona, Cooperative Extension Service; U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, National Weather Service; U. S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Services Agency, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and Rural Economic and Community Development Services; Arizona Citrus, Fruit and Vegetable Standardization

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Weather Information Table (temperatures, precipitation, and/or growing degree days)

**TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION DATA
 FOR THE WEEK MARCH 3 TO MARCH 9, 2002**

Station	Temperatures				Precipitation 2/		
	Avg.	Dep. 1/	High	Low	Past Week	Jan. 1 to Date	Normal to Date
Canyon De Chelly	41	-4	66	2	0.00	0.06	1.59
Casa Grande	58	-3	80	26	0.18	0.34	1.69
Coolidge	57	-2	81	24	0.19	0.23	1.91
Douglas	51	-3	75	14	0.00	1.33	1.43
Flagstaff	34	-1	56	-3	0.02	0.11	4.91
Gila Bend	61	-2	82	33	0.03	0.08	1.39
Grand Canyon	33	0	60	4	0.43	0.53	3.21
Kingman	49	-1	72	19	0.09	0.13	2.15
Parker	61	-2	79	33	0.00	0.00	1.22
Payson	44	-2	65	10	0.06	0.39	4.64
Phoenix	60	2	80	38	0.08	0.13	1.62
Prescott Airport	43	-1	65	11	0.00	0.00	2.06
Safford Ag Center	50	-1	75	16	0.07	0.16	1.51
Tucson	57	-1	80	24	0.06	0.67	1.84
Willcox	49	-2	73	17	0.02	0.82	1.84
Winslow	43	-3	71	-2	0.01	0.04	1.15
Yuma	63	-2	79	41	0.00	0.00	0.66

1/ Departure of temperature for reporting period from average temperature for that week.

2/ Daily precipitation totals 5 a.m. to 5 a.m. instead of midnight to midnight. Periods of record used in computing "average to date" for precipitation and "departure" for average temperatures may be obtained from National Weather Service, Phoenix.

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